

CLALLAM COUNTY

MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

February Minutes 2022

Date: Monday, February 28, 2022
Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm
Location: Zoom meeting
Minutes prepared by Rebecca Mahan

Members present:

P = Present E= Excused

P Bob Vreeland	P Robert Knapp	P Arnold Schouten	P Tim Cochnauer	? Jesse Waknitz
P Ann Soule	P Jeff Ward	P Mike Doherty	P Latrisha Suggs	Makah Open Position
P Lyn Muench	E Alan Clark	P Ed Bowlby	P Ann Stafford	P Justin Stapleton

Alternates present:

P Mary Sue Brancato	P Chris Burns	P Lance Vail	P Raymond Kirk
E Ioana Bociu	? Navarra Carr	P Nancy Stephanz	

Ex-Officio Members / MRC staff/Members of the Public Present

Rebecca Mahan, Clallam MRC Coordinator/Habitat Biologist; Cathy Lear, Clallam Habitat Biologist Manager; Allie Simpson NWSC; Coleman Byrnes; Ian Miller; Leah Robinson NWSC; Joe Schmitt; Stephen White.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

Call to order at 5:36 by Tim Cochnauer.

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve December and January minutes (with spelling error corrected) by LaTrisha Suggs Seconded by Arnold Schouten.

Guest Presenter: Ian Miller, Washington Sea Grant Coastal Hazards Specialist spoke to Clallam MRC about the [King Tides Program](#).

- University of Washington based program making King tides more than photos.
- Jeff Taylor Jefferson County MRC, along with NWSC monitors a spot in Port Townsend and is hoping to expand.
- Site selection should focus on particular location with fixed features.
- Prioritize sites near tidal gauges.
- Teams/ individuals need guidance about when to samples.
- [CoSMoS](#) models these events.

BOCC Presentation:

Tim Cochnauer spoke about his PowerPoint presentation to the BOCC on Feb.14, 2022. The presentation was well received by the BOCC. The BOCC asked how they could support the CMRC and they offered bridge funding for derelict vessel removal and wanted to see a proposal from CMRC. Tim Cochnauer, Jeff Ward and Rebecca Mahan are working on a proposal.

NWSC Update: Allie Simpson (NWSC) gave Updates:

- A reminder for the **tentative** in-person Northwest Straits conference November 18-19, 2022 at Maple Hall in La Conner. The Northwest Straits Commission plans to announce whether a conference will be held within the next month. A decision is pending public health recommendations.
- The REEF Volunteer Fish Survey Project is a citizen science opportunity for those who dive or snorkel. Learn more about how to get involved here: <https://www.reef.org/what-reef>.
- For invasive European green crab early detection and monitoring information, follow along with the work of Washington Sea Grant's Crab Team: [Get Involved With Crab Team – Washington Sea Grant](#).
- In Whatcom and Skagit Counties, NWSC staff will be leading intensive green crab removal efforts. Contact Leah Robison (robison@nwstraits.org) for more information about MRC volunteer opportunities in these counties.
- Maritime WA National Heritage Area recognizes our state's unique and diverse maritime culture. This new designation supports our coastal communities in celebrating, maintaining, and sharing their water-based stories. A draft management plan for this area has been released. Comments can be provided in several ways, including through a survey that focuses on the key components of the plan. <https://preservewa.org/programs/maritime-national-heritage-area/mw-nha-get-involved/>
- Dana Oster is back working
- [Derelict vessels bill](#) passed.

Volunteer needs:

- Mary Sue Brancato expressed the need to advertise for more volunteers. She offered to draft something to recruit new folks but needs project leads to tell her how many they need, when they need them, when they would train them, etc.. Volunteers could help in the field or with administration. All project leads were going to email Mary Sue with this information before the March meeting. She also asked for suggestions on where to advertise besides the newspaper, Feiro, etc.
- The idea of changing wording on Educational/Outreach cards to include volunteer opportunities was discussed.
- Ed Bowlby said the Pigeon Guillemot project could always use volunteers.
- The volunteer form is [here](#).
- Tim Cochnauer gave a quick rundown of intern expenditures last year.
- 560 hours, 240 Fellowship, 160 Makah, 80 Tumwater, 80 Ed/outreach cost approximately \$14,000
- Intern sub-committee
- Current project leads: Makah green crab- Adrienne, Jamestown- Chris Burns?, Biotoxin- Bob Vreeland, Kelp- Alan Clark and Jeff Ward, Education/Outreach- Ann Soule?,

Project Updates:

- Olympia oyster: Tentative heat map surveys May 31-June 2 times to follow.

Public Comment:

Joe Schmitt former MRC Chair commented on the need to do Biotoxin testing year round on beaches that former MRC member Doug Morrill used to sample. Joe spoke with new Department of health lead Katie Kowal. Katie stated that DOH does not have the capacity at this time to do more sampling. She is looking into the funds available to process more samples. Joe offered to help Bob with year round sampling at Physt. There was also interest from several MRC members to help sample other beaches (Freshwater Bay, Twins, Deep Creek).

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.Draft